

determining an average slope for each track of the disc around the entire circumference of the track;

developing along each of a plurality of radii of the disc a series of radial moving averages over the tracks of the discs, each radial moving average comprising a length of the radius sufficient to encompass a plurality of tracks, wherein the radial length is chosen to eliminate spikes from appearing in a differentiation, and means for differentiating the radial data to establish a radial profile of the disc and comparing each radial profile to one or more pre-established profiles to establish the utility of the disc in a disc drive having certain operating characteristics.